

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising:

a block-like insulator having a first surface and a second surface opposite to said first surface, said first surface confronting a first connection object, said second surface confronting a second connection object; and

a plurality of conductive contacts each electrically connecting said first connection object to said second connection object,

each of said conductive contacts comprising:

a retention portion held by said insulator;

a contact portion extending from one end of said retention portion and projecting over said first surface so as to contact said first connection object; and

a connecting portion extending from the other end of said retention portion and projecting over said second surface so as to be connected to said second connection object,

said insulator having a standoff region which is formed at a boundary between said second surface and a surface adjacent to said second surface and enables a mounting component be placed in said standoff region and mounted on said second connection object,

said contacts being disposed in predetermined positions of said insulator excluding said standoff region; wherein said standoff region comprises two regions, said insulator having a mounting portion between said two regions, said mounting portion approaching to confront said second connection object.

Claim 2. (Canceled).

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The connector according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said insulator has a plate portion dividing said mounting portion into two parts corresponding to said two regions, said connecting portions of the contacts being disposed on both sides of said plate portion, respectively.

Claim 4. (Original) The connector according to claim 1, wherein each of said contacts has a spring portion for giving springiness to said contact portion, said insulator having a plate portion biasing said spring portion in advance.

Claim 5. (Original) The connector according to claim 1, wherein said insulator has a mounting wall portion, said retention portion of each contact being fitted into said mounting wall portion from the outside.

Claim 6. (Original) The connector according to claim 1, wherein each of said contacts has a spring portion for giving springiness to said connecting portion.

Claim 7. (Original) The connector according to claim 1, wherein said insulator has a mounting portion approaching to confront said second connection object, each of said contacts extending along said mounting portion to have said connecting portion at an end portion thereof.

Claim 8. (Original) A connector according to claim 1, wherein said connecting portions of the contacts are arrayed in one line at an interval therebetween.

Request for Reconsideration:

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that the Examiner indicates that claims 2 and 3 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of their base claim, claim 1, and any intervening claims. Applicant is amending claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2 and claim 3 to depend from amended claim 1. Further, Applicant is cancelling claim 2, without prejudice. No new matter is introduced by these amendments and the amendments are fully supported by the specification, as filed. As a result of these amendments, claims 1 and 3-8 are pending in this application. No fees are believed due as a result of these amendments. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicant and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge or credit that variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter these amendments and reconsider this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.